

remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. All the pending claims at issue are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

Claims 11-15 and 38-43 are cancelled. No claims are added. No claims are amended. Accordingly, claims 6-10, 16-20, 24-37 and 44 remain pending.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following remarks.

REISSUE DECLARATION

In light of 37 CFR 1.178, Applicant hereby offers to surrender the original patent as issued. In furtherance of their duty, Applicants enclose the original Letters Patent. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner remove the objection to the Applicants duty under 37 C.F.R. 1.178.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 11, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Deere & Co. Parts (hereinafter "Deere") in view Unites States Patent No. 5,042,590 to Bierl et al. (hereinafter "Bierl").

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Deere in view of Bierl in further view of United States Patent No. 4,452,319 to Miguet et. al (hereinafter "Miguet").

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11, 14, 15, 38, 40 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bierl in view of Deere.

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12, 13 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bierl in view of Deere and in further view of Miguet

In paragraph 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 41 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bierl in view of Deere and in further view of United States of Patent No. 5,590,721 to Van Mill (hereinafter "Van Mill").

Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner bears the initial burden of factually supporting any prima facie conclusion of obviousness. MPEP §2142. To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, to modify the references or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art must teach all the claim limitations. MPEP §2142. Applicants submit that the Examiner has not met their burden in this case. However, Applicants have cancelled claims 11-15 and 38-43. Applicants do not disclaim any matter contained in the cancelled claims and reserve the right to pursue the claims in another application.

In light of the cancellation of the rejected claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the remaining allowable claims pass to issuance.

MARKED-UP CHANGES

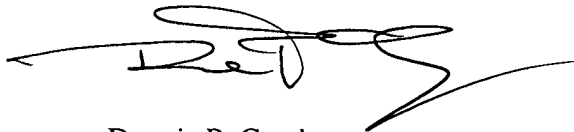
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE,**"

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submit that all pending claims 6-10, 16-20, 24-37 and 44 as currently presented as in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned attorney at 202-861-1703 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned attorney is confident that any issue, which might remain, can readily be worked out by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis P. Cawley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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PATENT

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 11-15 and 38-43